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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: De Maria et al.

Confirmation No: 9304

Serial No.: 10/574,554

Group Art Unit: 1656

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Examiner: W. Moore

For: Protease Variants

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 3, 2010

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